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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#10/18 (410)
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In re the Application of: **AMANO, Masaharu et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3671

Serial No.: **09/725,314**

Examiner: **Nathan S. MAMMEN**

Filed: **November 29, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8583

For: **A BUCKET TOOTH AND PRODUCING METHOD OF SAME**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -
GROUP ART UNIT 3671

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 27, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **September 3, 2002**, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) In an assembly having a bucket tooth attached to a bucket lip via a fastening bolt, said bucket tooth comprising axial force fluctuation absorbing means for absorbing